Create a campus culture where outcomes are understood and valued and where assessment functions as a resource leading to improved instruction, curricula, programs, and/or services. (2016)

12-1220 • 1st and 3rd Tuesdays • 2:45-4:15pm

Qualitative Review of Outcomes – 2014 Report

Per the Outcomes Plan (2012-2020) the Outcomes Committee (OC) is tasked with conducting qualitative review of outcomes assessment activities and providing feedback to departments. During Summer Intersession 2014, the OC looked at a sample of 33 courses from the nearly 230 courses, which were up for the four-year review curriculum process during 2014-15. A sub-committee of the OC reviewed these 33 courses for quality of outcomes assessment in terms of four categories: Course Outcomes, Means of Assessment/Criteria for Success, Summary of Data, and Use of Results. The review was conducted by observing information that departments provided in our outcomes assessment software, TracDat®. Feedback was sent out in the Fall Semester.

In general, the OC sub-committee found departments are proficient in writing course outcomes and developing means of assessment and criteria for success. The OC noted some departments could provide more information in the summary of data, such as providing the number and percentage of students assessed. Finally, the OC also recommends some departments more fully document their dialogue(s) about how they plan to use their assessment results. Units that received feedback included AGLI, AIRM, ARCH, BIOL, BUSA, BUSS, CHLD, CISB, COUN, ELEC, EMS, ENGR, EST, FCS, FIRE, JAPN, KIN, LCOM, LERN, LIT, MATH, MENT, MUS, NURS, OCEA, PHSC, PLGL, RAD, SPCH, THTR, and TUTR.

With continuous, ongoing involvement with outcomes assessment, and advocacy for conducting authentic assessment, departments continue to improve upon the quality of their outcomes assessment. However, in future communications and training to departments, the OC will remind departments to fully document the dialogue that occurs when they summarize their assessment data and plan to use their results.